

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-31. (Canceled)

32. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:

receiving a request to establish an end-to-end network communication session between a subscriber unit in a wireless communication system and a data network access server through a first basestation;

determining whether the received request is a request for a new session or a request to handoff an existing session from a second basestation; and

generating, if the received request is a request for a new session, a communication session identifier that uniquely identifies the session and accompanies the subscriber unit's access through any of a plurality of basestations **during the session.**

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising:

authenticating, if the request is a request to handoff an existing session, an existing communication session identifier received with the request.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein determining comprises:

analyzing attribute-value pair(s) (AVP) of the received request to identify a callType AVP; and

identifying the received request as a request for a new communication session if the callType AVP is absent from the incoming call request, or if an identified callType AVP associated with the received request denotes a new call.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein generating the communication session identifier comprises:

composing a deterministic element of the communication session identifier;
composing a random element of the communication session identifier; and
employing a mathematical function to generate the communication session identifier using the deterministic element and the random element.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the deterministic element is comprised of one or more of an electronic serial number (ESN) of the accessing subscriber unit, a media access control (MAC) address of the subscriber unit, and/or a telephone number associated with the subscriber unit.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the random element is comprised of one or more of a pseudo-random number, and/or a true random number generated from radio frequency (RF) energy of thermal noise associated with the communication session.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the mathematical function employed concatenates the deterministic element and the random element to generate the communication session identifier.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the mathematical function employed generates a hash of the deterministic element and the random element to generate the communication session identifier.

40. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:

a network interface to receive a request for an end-to-end network communication session between a wireless communication system subscriber unit and the apparatus through a first basestation; and

a communications agent to determine whether the received request is a request for a new session or a request to handoff an existing session from a second basestation; and

a session identification generator, invoked by the communications agent if the received request is a request for a new session, to generate a communication session identifier that uniquely identifies the session and accompanies the subscriber unit's access through any of a plurality of basestations **during the session**.

41. **(Cancelled)**

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the communication session identifier generated by the session identification generator comprises at least a deterministic element and a random element.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the communications agent analyzes attribute-value pair(s) (AVP) of a received incoming call request control command to

identify a callType AVP to determine whether an incoming call request indicates a new communication session or a handoff of an existing communication session.

44. **(Cancelled)**

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the session identification generator composes the deterministic element using one or more of an electronic serial number (ESN) of the accessing subscriber unit, a media access control (MAC) address of the subscriber unit, and/or a telephone number of the subscriber unit.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the session identification generator composes the random element of the session identifier utilizing a pseudo-random number generator.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the session identification generator composes the random element of the session identifier by generating a true random number from radio frequency (RF) thermal noise.

48. **(Cancelled)**

49. **(Currently Amended)** An article of manufacture comprising:

a machine accessible storage medium having stored therein a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed by an accessing computing device, cause an electronic system to:

receive a request to establish an end-to-end network communication session between a subscriber unit in a wireless communication system and a data network access server through a first basestation;

determine whether the received request is a request for a new session or a request to handoff an existing session from a second basestation; and

generate, if the received request is a request for a new session, a communication session identifier that uniquely identifies the session and accompanies the subscriber unit's access through any of a plurality of basestations **during the session**.

50. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 49 further to authenticate, if the request is a request to handoff an existing session, an existing and valid communication session identifier received with the request.

51. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 49, wherein the communication session identifier comprises a deterministic element and a random element.

52-58. **(Cancelled)**

59. **(New)** A wireless subscriber unit, comprising:

a requester to send a request to establish an end-to-end network communication session between the subscriber unit and a data network access server through a first basestation;

a receiver coupled to the requester to receive a communication session identifier that uniquely identifies the end-to-end network communication session and accompanies the subscriber unit's access through any of a plurality of basestations during the session; and

a memory coupled to the receiver to store the communication session identifier.

60. **(New)** The wireless subscriber unit of claim 59, wherein the request includes a callType AVP to denote a new call.

61. **(New)** The wireless subscriber unit of claim 59, wherein the communication session identifier received by the receiver includes a deterministic element and a random element.

62. **(New)** The wireless subscriber unit of claim 61, wherein the deterministic element is comprised of one or more of an electronic serial number (ESN) of the accessing subscriber unit, a media access control (MAC) address of the subscriber unit, and/or a telephone number associated with the subscriber unit.

63. **(New)** The wireless subscriber unit of claim 61, wherein the random element is comprised of one or more of a pseudo-random number, and/or a true random number generated from radio frequency (RF) energy of thermal noise associated with the communication session.